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Dated: November 27, 2006

Signature: Valerie Cohen

(Valerie Cohen)

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Docket No.: 509982005700
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Joerg BISCHOFF et al.

Application No.: 10/696,246

Confirmation No.: 7040

Filed: October 28, 2003

Art Unit: 2877

For: AZIMUTHAL SCANNING OF A STRUCTURE
FORMED ON A SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

Examiner: S. Nguyen

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action dated September 26, 2006 (Paper No. 20060916), for which a response is due on December 26, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Additionally, this response is filed within two months of the mailing date of the Final Office Action and therefore qualifies for expedited review. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

sf-2204405